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TITLE: Secondary Prevention in Primary OutPatient Care Facility for HIV Infected Individual

AUTHORS: Hardy, B; Andress, D; Sands, M
(Department of Health, Jacksonville, FL)

ISSUE: Incidence of HIV transmission risk behaviors in an HIV seropositive clinic population.

SETTING: The Duval County Health Department, located in Jacksonville, Florida, operates a 1400 patient HIV/AIDS clinic. The majority of clients are African-American, have an income of less than 100% federal poverty level, and a substantial percent (<50%) have mental health and substance abuse issues.

PROJECT: Interviews were conducted over a four-week period at the HIV/AIDS clinic.

The interview instrument was designed to identify high-risk activities that would place the client and their sex partners at increased risk for transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. The questionnaire was intended to identify: 1) who the client had sex with; 2) the number of different partners in the last year/three months; 3) whether the client has a steady sex partner who is HIV seronegative; 4) whether the client had a sexually transmitted disease in the past year; 5) active and passive oral sex and condom use; 6) vaginal/anal sex active and passive, and condom use; and 7) alcohol and drug use.

RESULTS: HIV seropositive individuals were involved in high-risk activities that placed the client at risk for re-exposure to HIV and other STDs, and placed the sex partner at risk for transmission of (and reexposure to) HIV.

CONCLUSION: Seventy six percent of all respondents had been sexually active in the year prior to interview. Initial analysis of the data indicates that a significant number of clients are sexually involved with multiple partners. There are a significant difference in condom use between homosexual and heterosexual activity indicating that men who have sex with men, and African-American women (due to incidence of STDs) are at increased risk.

PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Bonnie Hardy

Address: 1833 Boulevard, Suite 502
Jacksonville, FL 32206

Telephone: (904) 798-2790

Fax: (904) 7982787